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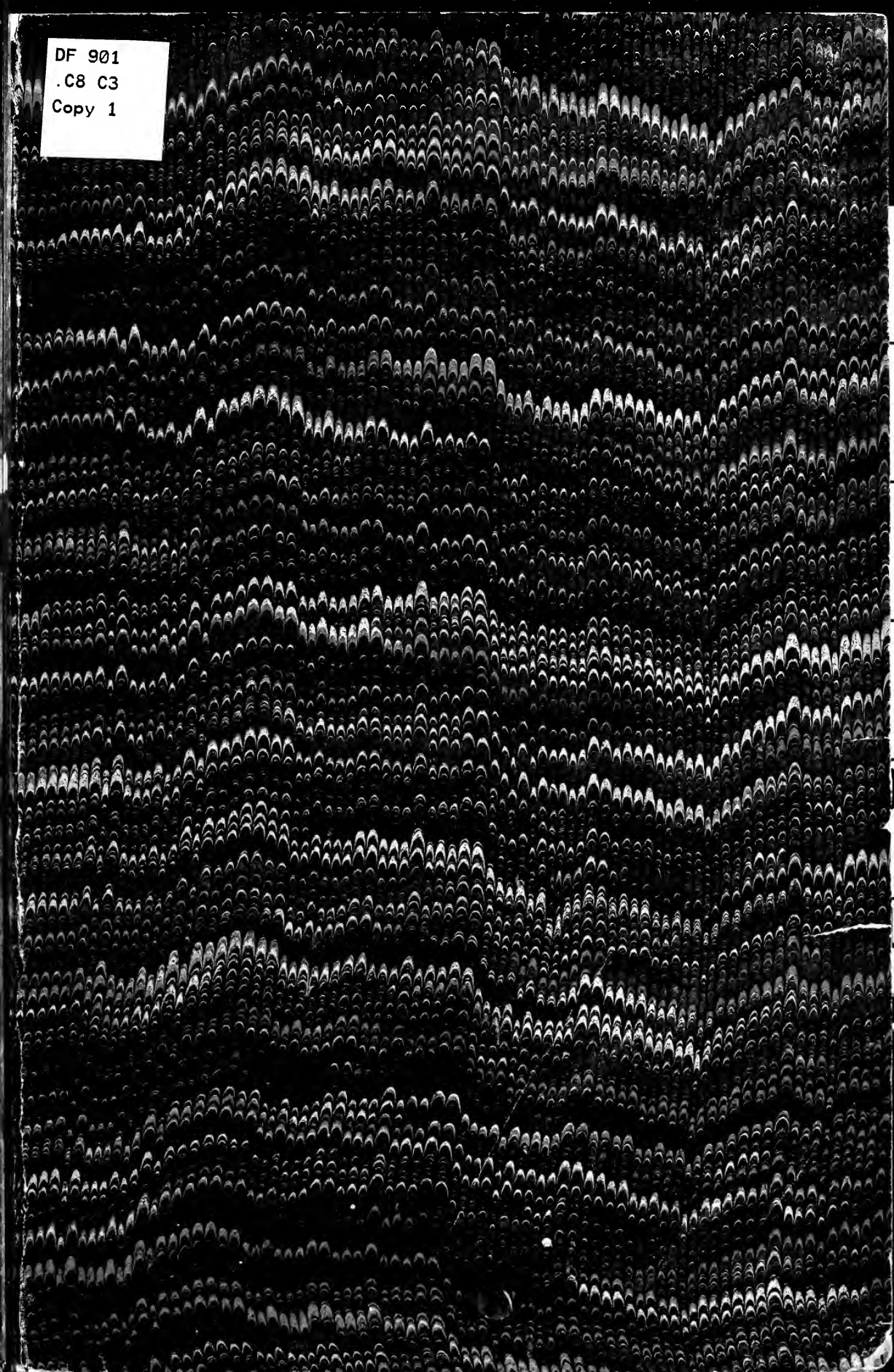
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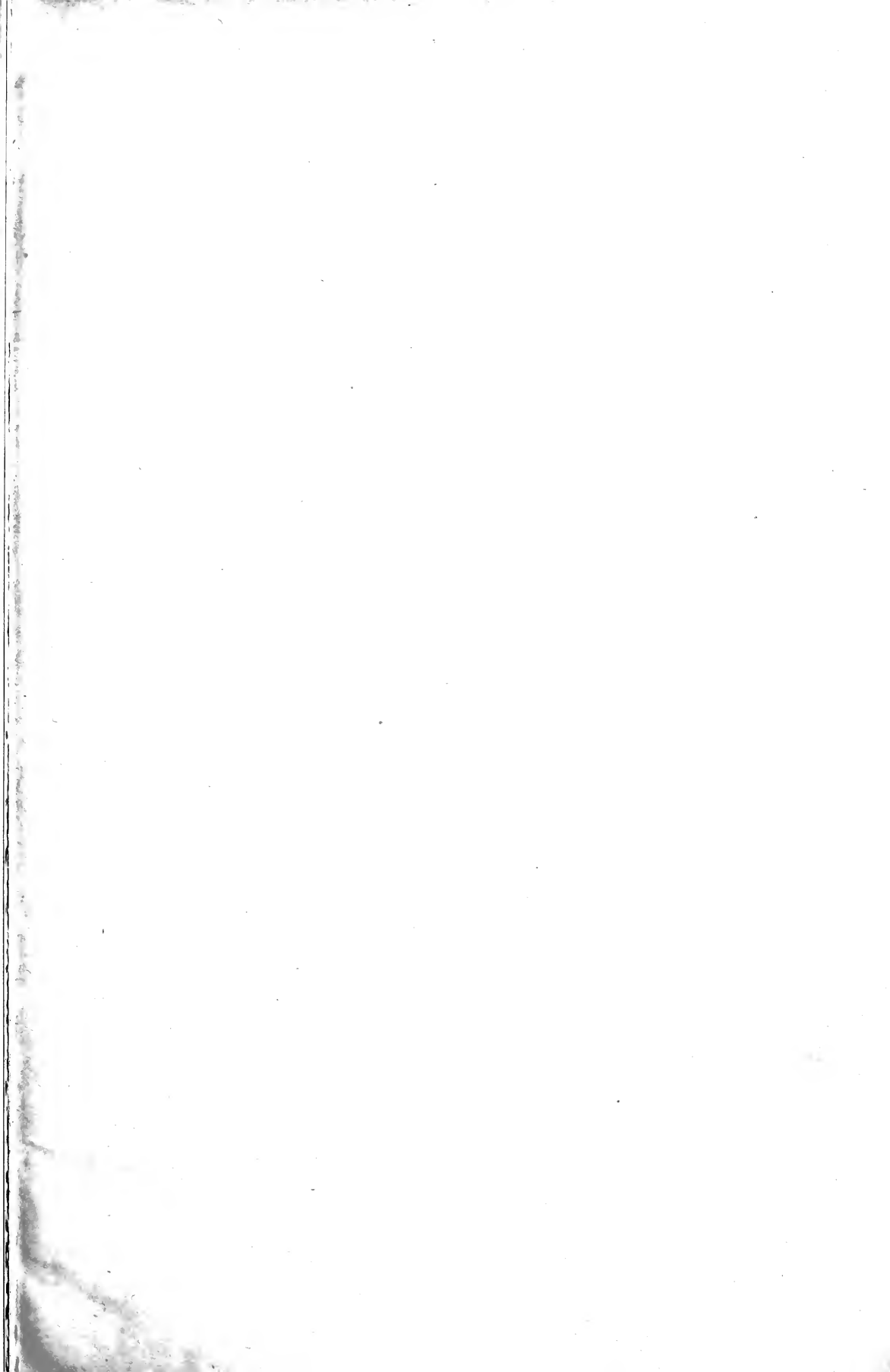
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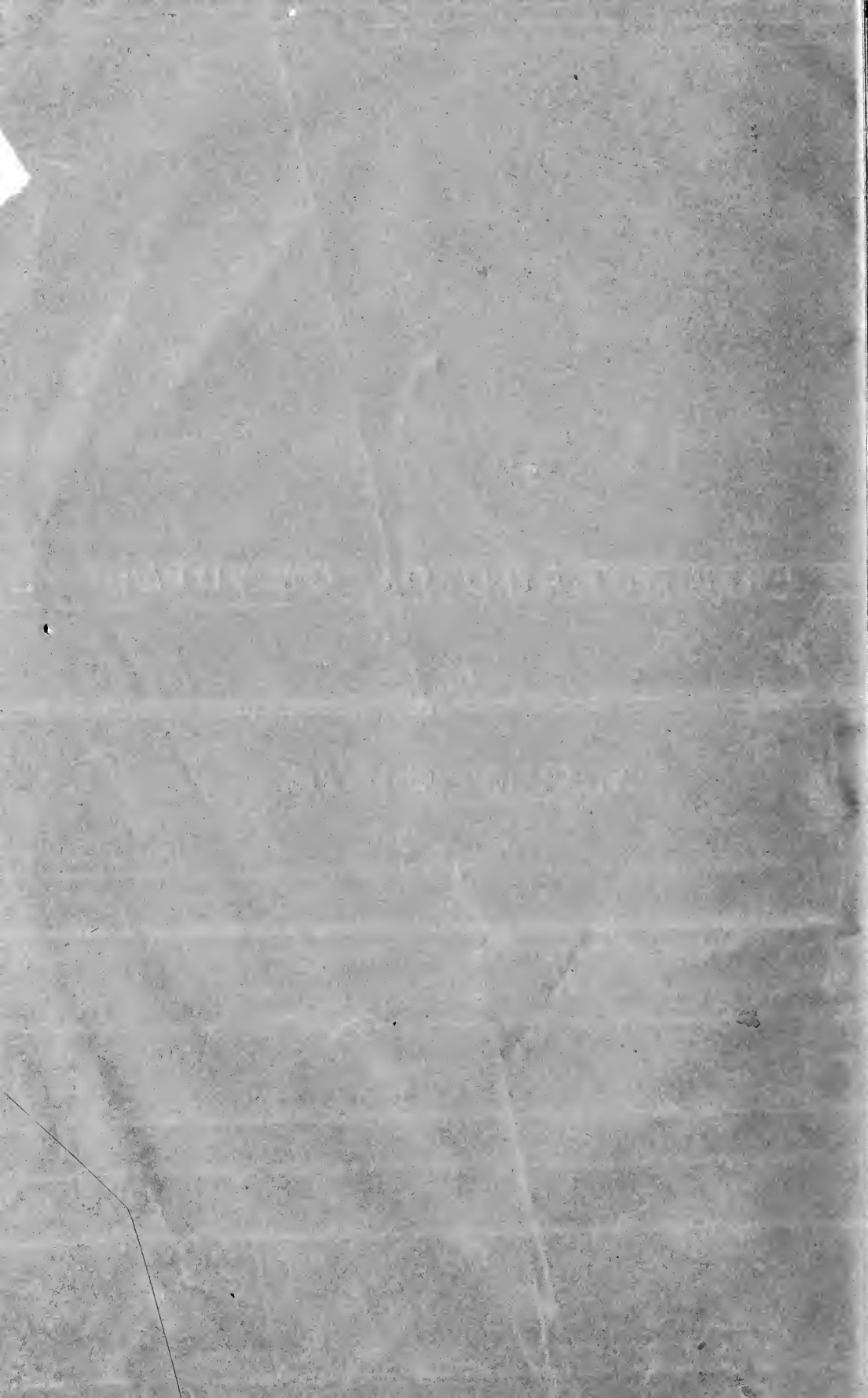
*From Hon Lewis Cass.*

THE ISLAND OF CANDIA;

OR,

**ANCIENT CRETE.**

Cass




AN HISTORICAL,  
GEOGRAPHICAL AND STATISTICAL ACCOUNT  
OF  
THE ISLAND OF CANDIA,  
OR  
ANCIENT CRETE.

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2630 ✓  
BY THE AMERICAN MINISTER AT PARIS.

Lewis Cass.

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## THE ISLAND OF CANDIA.

The Island of Candia, the ancient Crete, is one of the most interesting regions, from its historical associations, which modern travellers can visit; and it is not less worthy of examination from its geographical position, its natural features, and from the influence, which, under happier auspices, it might exert upon the various countries that surround it. It is the largest of the islands of the Mediterranean, and yields to none of them in the fertility of its soil and the beauty of its climate. It is, indeed, pressed down by an iron government—that of Mehemet Ali; but it is to be hoped that this will either cease ere long, and allow the union of the island to the dominions of King Otho, or that such changes will be gradually introduced, as will be more conformable to the spirit of the age and the condition of the people. Accident led us to this island a short time since, but our personal observation was so limited, that we have little to tell, and no *hair-breadth escapes* to narrate to the reader. We were, however, successful enough to collect some valuable statistical information, concerning its condition and productions, from authentic sources, and we propose to communicate the result of our remarks, regretting, however, that circumstances will necessarily render these meager and imperfect.

A slight inspection of the map of the Mediterranean, will show the advantageous position of this valuable island. It stretches from Greece to Egypt, actually barring the approach to the Archipelago and the Levant, and to the immense and fertile regions, which seek their outlets through them. When it is recollected that these embrace almost all the Turkish possessions, the provinces subjugated by the Pasha of Egypt, the greater part of the new kingdom of Greece, and no inconsiderable portion of the Russian dominions, we shall be ready to agree, that Aristotle had just grounds for the opinion he advanced, that few situations were more favorable for the foundation of a great empire. It touches the Adriatic Sea on one side, and the Nile on the other—thus forming the door, which can open or shut the maritime intercourse between important portions of Europe, Asia and Africa, and the rest of the world. France particularly has not been indifferent to the military and commercial advantages of this position, and to the aid she might draw from it in her efforts to acquire an ascendancy upon the Mediterranean, as was sufficiently evinced by the military mission, entrusted to General Dumas, under the reign of Louis XVI. In the autobiography of that respectable man, interesting particularly to an American, from his personal participation, under Rochambeau, in the war of our revolution, is a curious narrative of his voyage to Crete, and a full account of the views of the French government in relation to the possession of the island. General Dumas examined the whole country minutely, and presented, on his return, an able report exhibiting all the facts necessary for the action of the ministry. But the elements of a great political change were then

in operation in France, and a storm was gathering, which soon burst upon that country and upon Europe with a frightful violence, little favorable in its commencement to the realization of projects of distant aggrandizement. But the advantages of the island are too obvious to escape the statesmen of the present day; and Mr. Lamartine has very recently proposed at the French tribune—in a speech, not less remarkable for its apparent contempt of national faith and established rights, than from the consideration that it proceeded from an eminent author, whose writings abound with declamatory passages upon religion and morality—to take possession of Crete and to hold it as a permanent military station. He has been much less happy in demonstrating the justice of his project, than in exhibiting the value of the possession which he covets for his country. And in one of the latest works upon the East, which has issued from the English press, containing an account of Candia, the travels of captain Scott of the staff corps of the British army, there is a labored memoir, pointing out its value to Great Britain, and endeavoring to show that it is useless to the Pasha of Egypt, and that he would willingly cede it as the price of the recognition of the hereditary right of his family to his other territories.

When the reader recalls to his memory that Crete was the native country of the Titans, and of Saturn, of Jupiter, of Vesta, of Ceres, of Juno, of Neptune, of Pluto—all the latter occupying the most distinguished places in heathen mythology—of Minos, of Rhadamanthus, of Deucalion, and of Idomeneus; that in it were Mount Ida and the Labyrinth; that it was governed by the institutions of Minos, established originally by that lawgiver for its benefit; that it was celebrated for its hundred cities before the war of Troy; and that it sent to the memorable siege of that place eighty vessels, under its king Idomeneus, as we are told by the father of the *Epopæa*—

“Crete’s hundred cities pour forth all her sons.  
These marched, Idomeneus, beneath thy care  
And Merion dreadful as the god of war :”

When all this is brought before us, it is easy to comprehend that a very early state of civilization, and perhaps the occurrence of some extraordinary event, must have given great interest to this classic land in the fabulous and traditional periods of the world,—an interest, which the subsequent course of its history kept alive, and which has descended to our times as a tribute, that the present always owes to the glory and decadence of the past.

The vicissitudes of human power have never been more striking than in the moral, social, and political revolutions, which the progress of the history of this island exhibits to the observer. One of the cradles of civilization, remarkable in the earliest periods of the world for its contributions to the heathen mythology, to the systems of education and of legislation, and to many of the arts which minister to human comfort, it

is not less remarkable for its political phases. It has been at times independent and subjugated, a monarchy, a republic, and a province. As a monarchy, it was governed by Minos, who is called by Hesiod the greatest of mortal kings. As a republic, it furnishes two lessons for the contemplation of all who are interested in the study of human nature. It never undertook an external offensive war—and its duration, which extended to one thousand years, exceeds that of any other republican government upon record. Happy will our country be, if in following this example, we shall be able to equal the Cretan republic in moderation, and to exceed it in longevity. From an independent nation, it has passed successively under the domination of the Romans, the Arabs, the Greeks, the Latins, the Venitians, the Turks, and last, of the Egyptians. Once the missionary field of St. Paul and the Bishopric of Titus, it is now divided between the Moslem faith and a degraded branch of the Greek church; and the only sign of vital religion it exhibits, is to be found among a little band of generous and devoted persons, who have brought back from the western continent, to this early seat of apostolic labor, the human means of reestablishing the primitive purity of the church, and who, with a few faithful disciples, have fixed their abode in a corner of the island, amid ignorance, fanaticism and ruin.

The slight allusion we have made to the early condition of this island, sufficiently evinces, that it is one of the regions to which a branch of the human family directed the course of its emigration, not long after the separation from the parent stock in the central portions of Asia. The origin, early progress of settlement, and increase of nations, precede the period of authentic history, and are lost in the darkness of that remote epoch. It is to be regretted, indeed, that the infancy of nations has passed under circumstances which have left us no authentic memorials of the most interesting portion of human history. It is difficult to conceive a more curious subject of observation and inquiry, than the first efforts of man to examine the world around him; to accommodate himself to the circumstances of his position; to learn how to provide for his animal wants; to proceed step by step from one result of his experience to another, till he attains a knowledge of his true condition and a sentiment of his real power, and to place himself at the head of that creation which he is destined to embellish and to govern. But it is useless to speculate upon these topics; the necessary facts have forever escaped us. Writers are, indeed, anxious to discover, in the mythological fables and in the gross traditional tales which have come down to us, a shadowing out of the events that actually passed at that remote period; and many a long day has been laboriously and we may add uselessly devoted to these investigations, equally uncertain in their process and profitless in their results. Unfortunately, we are often so eager to find remote causes, that we overlook those which are more natural and obvious; and in all these investigations, nothing is allowed for the waywardness of the human intellect and the fantasies of the human imagination. The prototypes, therefore, of these legendary monsters, we are determined to seek in nature, rather than in that creative intellectual power, which is never more fertile than in those

periods when it is the least regulated by study and knowledge.

The fabulous and traditional history of Crete abounds with illustrations of the preceding remarks. We need not recall them to the reader, because they cannot fail to be suggested by the simple enunciation of the names of the personages we have given, and whose renown occupies so large a space in the poetry and annals of the earlier ages. We pass over, therefore, the race and deeds of the Titans, and the celestial dynasty, descended from Saturn the eldest of them; the reign of Minos and the life of Rhadamanthus, who were so distinguished for their justice, that they were called to preside over the tribunals in the infernal regions; of the exploits of Theseus and the death of the Minotaur; and of the other marvellous incidents with which this period abounds, and pause a moment to survey the condition of the island when authentic history first makes it known to us.

It had then exchanged its monarchical for a republican government. Its executive, composed of ten magistrates, elected annually, performed similar functions to those of the Ephori at Sparta, and probably formed the model of the constitution of the latter. A council of twenty-eight senators, named for life, was a check upon the executive authority; but it is difficult to trace the respective limits of their power, or to ascertain how far a wise jealousy might be carried, before it degenerated into one of those political contests before which human freedom has so often fallen. Its duration of ten centuries is a shining proof of the wisdom of its practical operation; and antiquity vaunts the enlightened men and virtuous citizens it formed. It was praised by Plato and Strabo and copied by Lycurgus; it could have no higher eulogies. The notices which have come to us of its history and condition during this period are few and imperfect. It is evident, however, that the constitution of the island did not prevent internal dissensions; and different cities fought for superiority, with all those incidents attending their alternate ascendancy and subjugation, which mark the history of the Grecian republics, continental and insular. To him, who seeks the causes of the decline and fall of these little interesting states, nothing can appear more contemptible than their differences, perpetually succeeding one another, nor more insensate than the course of the governments and people, forever sacrificing their peace to the childish passions of the moment, and thus preparing the way for the memorable fate which overtook them. In all history there is no chapter more interesting to the friends of equal governments, than that which describes the jealousy and dissensions of the Grecian people—nor any lesson more instructive than is exhibited by their consequences. They displayed so many bright spots during their passage over the horizon, that their memory will never fail to attract the admiration of mankind. But they set in a dark and troubled night.

The Cretan archers and slingers were celebrated among the ancient warlike nations, and they rendered essential services in the retreat of the ten thousand, and swelled the army of Alexander in its triumphal progress through Asia. The secret springs of the Cretan policy are unknown, and we cannot, therefore, determine what motives induced the people to join the Persians against the Greeks. But the part they took

for Mithridates, brought them into contact with the Romans, then on their way to universal conquest, and furnished the cause or the pretext for their subjugation. War was declared against them, and Mark Anthony, the father of the Triumvir, attacked them, but was defeated, and a great part of his fleet taken. Rome could pardon a conquered people, but never a victorious one; and Metellus was sent to repair the disaster and to vindicate the honor of the Roman arms. He debarked upon the island without opposition; but the Cretans soon collected their forces and maintained a vigorous resistance with varied success for three years, diversified by a species of civil war among the invaders, in which a portion of their troops under Octavius joined the islanders. However, after the loss of a large portion of the inhabitants, and the destruction of several cities, the country was at length subdued and added to the list of subjugated nations.

It then became a Roman province, and its fate for ages was bound up with that of the great metropolis. In the division of the empire, it fell to the lot of the eastern Emperors, and seems to have been comparatively flourishing, till it was almost ruined by a remarkable earthquake in the reign of Valentinian I.

In 803 it became connected with the Spanish Saracens, whose romantic adventures furnish such an interesting episode in the history of the various kingdoms now composing the Spanish monarchy. One of those family disputes, which so often marked the progress of these Moorish adventurers, had broken out; and the unsuccessful party dreading the vengeance of their rivals, and determined not to submit to their authority, embarked under their leader and sailed over the Mediterranean rather as pirates than as legitimate warriors. Attracted by the riches of Crete, they landed upon the island, but too feeble to conquer it, they ravaged the coasts, and safely retired with their plunder. But, tempted by the wealth of the country and its weakness, they returned the next year with a more formidable armament, and landed their armed colony. They made an incursion into the interior, and when they returned to the shore, they found their fleet in flames, and comprehended, that they had before them either a conquest or a tomb. Their leader frankly avowed, that this bold measure was his own, and replied to their remonstrances, that he had brought them to a land flowing with milk and honey, to their true country, where they would find wives to recompense them for those they had left. The conqueror of Mexico, when he burnt his fleet and showed his soldiers that they had to choose between the enemy and the sea, had perhaps read this lesson in the history of the roving bands which his own country had sent forth. There are times when the rashest measures are the wisest, and it is the province of true genius to appreciate the circumstances, and to seize the favorable moment for decisive action, taking care to distinguish between the difficult and the impossible.

The Moslem leader reaped the reward of his bold enterprise. He defeated the armies which the Greek emperor, Michael, the stammerer, sent against him, and in less than three years established his domination over the island. He died some years later, and left to his successors a throne, the fruit of his wisdom and enterprise. The Saracens continued in possession of Crete

about one hundred and thirty-eight years, when their power was utterly broken, and the country restored to the Greek empire. This union continued till 1204, when the western Europeans having conquered Constantinople, the gratitude or the policy of Baldwin, elected emperor, induced him to cede the island to the Marquis of Monterrat, one of the leaders who had aided in elevating him to his new dignity. The new possessor, however, wanting gold more than territory, sold his kingdom the same year to the republic of Venice, the merchant kings, who wielded equally the sword and the purse, ever ready to acquire from weakness or improvidence.

During four centuries and a half the Venitians retained possession of Candia, and marked their government by a wise and vigorous course of administration. They repelled the efforts of the Genoese and of the Turks to wrest it from them, and improved the condition of the inhabitants. Commerce was extended, the cities repaired, and traces of the prosperity of the country, at this period, have yet survived Turkish and Egyptian domination.

The power, wealth, and enterprise of the small republics of Italy, during the middle ages, furnish a fertile subject for contemplation. Their history places in prominent relief the advantages of freedom and of commercial industry; and Venice and Genoa, particularly, have left many monuments of their successful progress from the Adriatic to the sea of Azoph.

But a power had now arisen in the east, destined to alarm the western nations; and the lion of St. Mark was called upon to defend, by strenuous efforts, one of the most precious jewels in his ducal crown. In 1645 the Turks attacked the island, and landing with a formidable army, laid siege to the city of Canea. After a vigorous resistance this important place was taken, and the invaders extended their conquests in different directions. They had subjugated nearly half the island, when their progress was arrested by some of the bloody revolutions in the seraglio, which have so often stained the course of Turkish history. As the Moslem efforts relaxed, those of the Venitians were redoubled, and their fleets rode triumphant upon the Levant, and actually took possession of the island of Tenedos, which commands the entrance of the Dardanelles. But the fanaticism and perseverance of the Turkish character were never more strikingly displayed than in the progress of this long contest. They succeeded in retaining their hold in Candia, and though the siege of its capital was interrupted, and offensive operations suspended, still the Venitians could not expel them. The latter, tired with this bitter and expensive war, proposed, through the mediation of the French ambassador at Constantinople, to divide the island between themselves and their enemies; but the offer was indignantly rejected, and under such circumstances, that Louis XIV, wounded in his pride, broke with the Turks and joined himself to the Venitians. The succors he furnished, though they delayed the final result, yet could not change it.

The Grand Vizier Kiuperli, one of the most celebrated warriors known in the Ottoman annals, was then at the helm of the Turkish government, and after repairing the disasters of his fleet, retook from the Venitians their late conquests, and pushed his operations

in Candia. The city of Candia had already been invested during some years, when the Grand Vizier himself, in 1667, after the most formidable preparations, debarked upon the island, with large reinforcements and an immense supply of all the *materiel* of war necessary to the most vigorous prosecution of the siege.

Then commenced that death-struggle, for the possession of this important place, which arrested the attention of Europe, and which gave place to a series of the most romantic adventures in the whole history of human daring. The siege itself was the longest upon record. It continued uninterrupted ten years. Tradition, indeed, has given to Troy a similar contest of equal duration. But there is little versimilitude in the general *contour* of the facts of the Trojan war; and imagination, rather than authentic history, has probably supplied us with the course of its operations. The conduct of the Greeks is utterly irreconcilable with the rudest principles of the art of war. Professing to attack a fortified city at some distance from the coast, they sit down upon the shore, and occasionally advance into the plain to meet the Trojans in the open field, or depart upon distant expeditions for the collection of prisoners and plunder. There were no lines of circumvallation, nor the slightest attempt to invest the city during almost the whole of the war. We looked carefully over the plain of the Troad, and whatever place may be selected for the site of the lost city, it is not the less obvious, that the hostile parties kept themselves at a respectable distance from each other, and that the country was as open to the Trojans as the sea to the Greeks. The theatre of operations was a level plain, enclosed between the ridges of Ida, the Archipelago, and the Hellespont, having in its front the small island of Tenedos. It required a more vigorous imagination than has fallen to our lot, to recognise in either of the little marshy streams which wind their way through it, the rivers so magniloquently described in the *Iliad*, and with epithets not inapplicable to our own Ohio and Mississippi. Indeed, the prestige of the plain and its associations was almost destroyed by our first access to the shore. At a little distance from the place of landing, upon a rising ground, we perceived a Turkish village—approached it, as well to gratify our curiosity, as to procure information. When almost upon the point of entering, a number of persons made violent gesticulations, which we could not understand; but on the arrival of our interpreter, who had fallen in the rear, we found the plague was raging there, and that the object of this friendly warning was to prevent our entrance. It was the fourth of July, when we roamed over this celebrated plain, recalling, at the same time, the birth of one of the youngest nations, and the death of one of the oldest.

But we must follow the struggles of the contending parties, under the beleaguered walls of Candia. The natural position of the city was strong, and its fortifications had been carefully improved, till it had become one of the most powerful fortresses of the age, and it was defended by able and zealous officers, and by ten thousand men. And well it needed these advantages, for the Grand Vizier was a renowned warrior, and had invested the place with an army of eighty thousand men, and he had at his command the resources of a mighty empire. During more than two years the ope-

rations were carried on without intermission, and all the arts of attack and defence were mutually exhausted. Human life is nothing in a Moslem army; and the Turkish general sacrificed his soldiers without scruple, satisfied if he shed christian blood, and regardless at what expense. The fortifications were battered in breach and levelled; mines were exploded; trenches filled up, and assaults attempted. But christian fortitude still held out against Mahomedan fanaticism. The injuries were repaired as fast as made; and the most desperate attempts at escalade, led on by the Grand Vizier in person, were successfully met and repelled. The Pope was at length roused from inactivity or indifference, and began to regard with anxiety the prospect of the fall of one of the bulwarks of christendom before the Mahometan power. A crusade was preached—but alas! the times had changed, since Peter the Hermit excited the enthusiasm of Europe, and led the western nations to a long and terrible contest, as irrational in its objects, as it was fruitless in its results. However, many of the ardent youth of Europe, led away by a generous sympathy, embarked for Candia, and joined the Venitian forces; thus supplying, from time to time, the loss occasioned by disease and the sword. It was a period of peace, and many, who were desirous of military renown, coveted the glory of being taught in such a school. The engineers particularly sought this distinction,—and Vauban, among others, carried there the tribute of his experience.

Notwithstanding the generous ardor thus displayed, and the pertinacity of the defence, the Turks pressed on, and in the spring of 1669, after a series of desperate actions, succeeded in gaining possession of one of the principal outworks and reducing the fortifications almost to a heap of ruins. Candia approached its fall, when suddenly a French fleet, carrying seven thousand men, arrived to the aid of the defenders. They landed on the very eve of an intended final assault; but their presence dispirited the Turks, and the contemplated effort was abandoned. The French, however, could not consent to defend the city behind its ramparts. They immediately made a sortie, with all the ardor of their nation, and with all the enthusiasm inspired by the nature of the war in which they found themselves engaged. Their attack was so desperate and unexpected, that the Turkish army was thrown into immediate disorder and suffered a heavy loss. Had the assailants then retired, and coolly undertaken the defence of the place, the respect taught by this vigorous effort, and by the reinforcement itself, would probably have paralyzed the operations of the enemy, and might have led to the relief of the city. But the morning light disclosed the small number of the christians, and at the moment when these were upon the point of carrying the Ottoman entrenchments, a powder magazine belonging to the Turks blew up, and the French, fearing the whole ground was mined, retired in disorder, leaving a large number dead upon the field, among whom was their general, the Duke of Beaufort.

This disaster sealed the fate of the unfortunate city, and with it the domination of the Venitians over the island. Disunion soon sprung up among the discordant materials composing the defence, and one after another, the volunteers, abandoned a task which appeared hope-



less, and retired as they could to their respective countries. The Turks, concentrating their energy, and encouraged by these circumstances, made a vigorous assault, which ended in putting them in possession of one of the principal defences, and in opening to them a passage in the heart of the city. It was determined, therefore, to surrender; and a capitulation was entered into, which was followed by the withdrawal of the Venitians, and the establishment of the Turkish power over the island.

Since that period it has had its full share in the miseries entailed upon all the christian people subjected to the Mahometan yoke. The disasters, occasioned by this long contest, have never been repaired, and never will be, till the government of the island is in other hands.

It was divided into three Pashaliks, and subjected to three rapacious despots. In consequence of some internal dissensions between them, a band of the native mountaineers obtained permission to govern themselves. But this concession not being regarded with fidelity, frequent contests were the result, till in 1821, the Candioties joined the other Greeks in their attempt to shake off the Turkish yoke. Not being able to subdue them, the Sultan ceded the island to Mehemet Ali, who soon obtained possession of it, and it yet forms an integral part of his dominions.

It was the 29th July, 1837, that emerging from the beautiful group of the Cyclades, we approached the ancient kingdom of Minos. We had run down from Constantinople with a favoring breeze and delightful weather, and had passed the various isles and islets which "crown" this glorious "deep," and which have been the theatres of events that will forever render them celebrated in the annals of mankind. All of them are small specks, hardly distinguishable upon the map of the world, and some of them are mere rocks; but there is a deathless interest attached to them, which time cannot annihilate, and which will survive all the revolutions, social or political, they are destined to undergo. This sentiment is a generous tribute to the dignity of human nature. It is not wealth, nor power, nor numbers, which impose upon the imagination. It is none of these, nor the memory of these, which bring the trans-atlantic pilgrim, from the bustle and business and enterprise of a new world, to contemplate these scenes of former civilization and of present decay. No! he renders his homage to a nobler idol—to the memory of genius, industry, advancement in civilization, progress in the arts and sciences, and the cultivation of whatever can best promote the interests of human nature.

We had passed by Lemnos, Tenedos, Mitylene, the ancient Lesbos, Scio, Delos, Syra or Syros, Paros, and the various other islands, which deck these seas, and whose names and history are familiar to the reader; and we had stopped at several of them to examine their condition and to run over their interesting remains. The compression, if we may so speak, of scenes and events, within a narrow compass, and the powerful emotions which this short voyage is calculated to excite, may be appreciated by this striking fact, that at one point of our passage, we had in view at the same moment, Syra, Tinos, Andros, Delos, Mycone, Naxos, Paros, Antiparos, Siphanto and Serpho. We had

passed in the distance the island of Patmos, the residence of St. John, and, if not the scene of the revelations made to him, the place where he wrote the Apocalypse which recorded them.

Our own internal seas present masses of water as large and some of them larger, than this "Egean deep," and abound with picturesque objects, almost unrivalled in the world. The entrance into Lake Superior, with the shores embosomed in woods, the high lands gradually opening and receding on each side, and the water, as clear as crystal, extending beyond the reach of the eye, forms one of the most striking displays of natural beauties it has ever fallen to our lot to witness. And a scene, almost equally impressive, though of a different character, attends the traveller who crosses the small arm of Lake Huron, between the island of Michilimackinac and the entrance of the straits of St. Marie, which communicate with Lake Superior. One bright summer morning we found ourselves making this passage, and as the sun displayed his disk above the water which surrounded us, we were surprised by a singularly interesting spectacle. We were accompanied by a fleet of three hundred Indian canoes, which had left Michilimackinac in the night, in order to make the passage, before the wind—which strengthens as the day advances—should render the voyage dangerous, for the frail birch vessels in which they navigate the rivers and lakes, that furnish them with so much of their subsistence. These Indians had made their usual annual visit to Michilimackinac, to sell their peltries and procure supplies of ammunition and clothing, and to talk over their public affairs with the representative of the government stationed there; at that time Mr. Schoolcraft, to whose worth as a citizen, and to whose exemplary conduct as a public officer, we are happy to have this opportunity of bearing testimony. They were returning in high spirits, having with them all their families, as is the usual custom of the Indians in these excursions, and having also a supply of the articles most necessary to enable them to contend with the hardships incident to their mode of life. The lake was perfectly smooth, the Indians animated, paddling with their utmost energy, and singing their various songs, with a strength of lungs which sent these far over the water. The whole display was full of life, and we recall it with the most pleasant emotions. But these scenes upon our Indian border, whether still or animated, are feeble in their effects upon the human mind, when compared with the impressions produced in the theatre where we were now moving. Distance, however, no where lends *enchantment to the view* more than here. But the nakedness of reality comes painfully to destroy some of these delusions on a near approach. All these islands are destitute of timber, naked as a vast prairie, but without one other point of resemblance. They are generally rocky, broken by ravines, and to the eye nothing can appear more sterile. The mode of culture, when they are cultivated, is slovenly, the inhabitants indolent, the houses mean and dirty, and the towns and villages in a state of decay, and yet we visit them with the deepest interest. We visit them for what they have been, and in spite of what they are.

One of the most renowned is the little islet of Delos, or rather the two morsels of rock and earth known



under that name, but separated by a narrow channel, furnishes the most striking illustration of these remarks, and the most complete picture of desolation, which even these regions exhibit. In our lonely walk amid its ruins, we did not meet a single human being. What a contrast between this almost frightful solitude and its former condition, when it was filled by busy crowds which inhabited it, or which continually flocked to it to worship at its temples, as the Jews went up to Jerusalem to render their devotions to the living God!

The sanctity of this chosen spot, is one of the facts best known in the history of ancient manners. It was the birth place of Apollo and Diana, and its three famous temples were dedicated respectively to the brother and sister and to their mother Latona. Their ruins yet attest the extent and splendor of these edifices; to the construction and embellishment of which the various states of Greece contributed with a generous spirit of rivalry, evincing the liberality of their disposition and the ardor of their religious faith. This island was holy ground, a place of refuge, where even enemies were friends when they met upon it. Livy relates an interesting anecdote upon this subject. A commission of Roman deputies going to Syria and Egypt were compelled to stop at Delos, where they found a number of galleys belonging to the kings of Macedonia and Pergamos at anchor, although these two princes were then at war. The historian adds, that the Romans, Macedonians, and Pergamians, met and conversed in the temple, as though they had been friends. The sanctity of the place suspended all hostilities.

In like manner, when the victorious Persian squadrons swept the Grecian seas, and landed detachments, which ravaged the other islands, the commander spared Delos, and even reproached the inhabitants for having quitted it upon his approach, adding, "Why have you quitted your dwellings, and thus marked the bad opinion you have of me? I am not your enemy by choice—and besides I am ordered by my king not to commit hostilities in a country, where two divinities were born, and to use no violence towards those who inhabit it. Return then, and resume possession of your houses and lands!"

And in this island, thus venerated, we saw, not the marbles actually in the process of being burnt into lime, but the pits where the lime had been made, and where, perhaps, some of the most beautiful works of antiquity had been prepared to form the mortar for a miserable cottage. It is said, that heretofore the inhabitants of Mycone rented this island from the Turkish government at the annual price of ten crowns! Such a picture admits no other trait.

As the last island of the Ægean group sunk in the horizon, Crete rose before us, extending east and west, and presenting its diversified shores to our view. The aspect was rugged, and the coast precipitous and iron-bound, while in the interior arose a range of mountains, upon whose summits the clouds were resting. We steered for the bay of Suda, and entered it without accident, mooring our noble frigate in its quiet waters.

This bay is one of the most magnificent ports in the world, stretching inland about six miles, with a breadth of three, capacious enough to contain the most powerful navy, and with sufficient depth of water for any vessel that floats. Its entrance is narrow, and divided

by two small islands, on one of which is a little fortress, completely commanding the approach. We were told that the commanding officer was a bon-vivant, who loved wine better than the Koran; and that the captain of one of our armed vessels, who was desirous of entering the harbor, but who was prevented by the new quarantine regulations, which Mehemet Ali has recently adopted, found his way to the Egyptian's heart through a bottle of champagne, who, disregarding the fear of the plague and the fear of the Pasha, dispensed with the sanitary precautions and admitted his new friend to *pratique* without hesitation. Whatever opinion may be entertained respecting the progress of the Turks in the manners of the western Europeans in other respects, there is none in this, that the higher classes are fast acquiring the habit of drinking wine, and some of them a much stronger liquid. The *penchant* of the late Sultan for this indulgence, was well known through the empire, and could not fail to produce by its example a powerful influence. Ibrahim Pasha is a confirmed toper; and if we should use a harsher word, we should probably convey to our readers a still juster idea of the extent to which he carries this habit. In Damascus, we found the table of the governor general of Syria loaded with wine; and his confidential friend and physician, a French gentleman, observed, significantly and jocosely, that his patron had fifteen thousand books in his library. We did not need the arch look, which accompanied these words, to enable us to correct the errata; for books, read bottles of wine.

Still this practice is neither altogether general nor public, and we found that much prejudice was excited against those who indulged themselves too freely and openly. A respectable French officer, high in the confidence of the Pasha, has renounced christianity and embraced the Moslem faith. We found him in command of the ancient city of Sidon, and he is at this moment the second officer in the army of Ibrahim Pasha, which is defending the entrance of Syria against the Turks. His new religion must sit lightly upon him, and the devout Mussulmen do not appear to have much confidence in the faith of their proselyte. What sort of a follower of the prophet can he be? said they; he never goes to the mosque; he drinks wine and eats pork. The days of Turkish fanaticism are indeed past. The time has been, and not long since, when his turban would not have protected his neck from the scimitar or the bowstring.

The entrance of the bay of Suda is from the east, and beyond is a high projecting point, which completely shelters it from the sea. To the north and the south are rugged hills, but to the west the break between the ridges continues and forms a level valley, which opens in about two miles at the city of Canea. There are two small villages upon the bay, occupying the declivity of the southern range of hills. The scenery is not uninteresting, relieved by little orchards of olive trees, that precious gift of Providence, whose production is so essential to the inhabitants of the east. The plain leading to Canea is covered with a light sandy soil, and abounds in water, which might be used for the purpose of irrigating the crops, but which is almost wholly neglected. There are some villages upon the route, and traces of a considerable population.

Canca occupies the site of the ancient Cydonia, the mother city of the island, renowned for its power and opulence, and which was the theatre of many interesting events in the history of Crete. But the modern town extends over a small part only of the ancient one.

It is not the political capital of the island, but it is the place of the greatest commerce—and this preëminence it owes to its position in the most fertile region, to its port, where vessels of three hundred tons can enter, and to its vicinity, being within two miles to the bay of Suda, which affords safe anchorage to the largest ships.

It was formerly strongly fortified by the Venitians, but a portion of the works have been demolished, and another portion is in a state of dilapidation. This neglect is of the less importance, as it is probable the future possession of the island will depend more upon the decision of diplomacy than upon military expeditions.

The harbor is small and obstructed by ruins, and not safe in a northern gale. The buildings are old and in a state of decay, and every thing shows that the hand of oppression has weighed heavily upon the wretched population.

Mehemet Ali has established a rigid police through his dominions. Whoever possesses sufficient knight-errantry to seek dangers, either for the sake of recording them, or from any higher motive, would waste his time if he stopped in either of the provinces subjected to the sway of the Egyptian Pasha. He chooses to be, through himself or his agents, the only oppressor in his government; a part, indeed, which he fulfils with admirable ability. But the traveller is safe, not only in his person, but he is generally protected from imposition and extortion. In traversing the island of Crete, he would have nothing to fear but the usual casualties of a journey and the fatigues to which he would be exposed by the state of the country and the manners of the inhabitants.

From the bay of Suda we sailed down the coast, passing Retimo, the third city in importance, after Candia and Canca, in the island. It was a place of much distinction in the time of the Venitians, and it is filled with the evidences of their power and wealth in every state of decay. It stands upon a low cape, but its harbor is not well sheltered, and the mole which formed it has been almost destroyed. The channel has been so filled up with an accumulation of sand, that no vessels drawing more than thirty tons can enter. Those of larger tonnage must remain in an open roadstead.

The population is about eight thousand, and its commerce is principally carried on with Greece and the islands of the Archipelago.

When we arrived at Candia, the capital of the island, we unfortunately found Mehemet Ali there, with a part of his fleet, anchored before the town. We say unfortunately, because he had just given, in his own person, an example of submission to his quarantine regulations, which left us no hope of a relaxation in our favor, as we had visited a suspected port within the limited period. Not having, at our disposition, the time necessary to procure admission, we abandoned the island and bore up for the Holy Land.

The city of Candia presents rather an imposing as-

pect from the sea. In its rear is a range of mountains which extend through the island, and from amid which the snow-covered top of Ida is prominently distinguishable from the rest of the chain. In the distance the city is thrown with beautiful effect against this ridge, though in fact it is surrounded by a considerable plain. The mountains, however, diminish much in height and the chain is almost interrupted, so that the gaps furnish convenient routes for traversing the island from north to south. The plain extends to the base of the ridge from which Ida projects.

The city contains about twelve or fourteen thousand inhabitants. It has a mole and a small port for vessels of light burthen; but for those of greater depth of water, it affords no protection but an open roadstead. It presents the aspect of an old Venitian town, rather than that of a Turkish one. The streets are wide and paved, but in a rough manner. There are some fountains, and occasional rows of trees, which produce an agreeable effect. The fortifications are nearly in the state the Venitians left them, somewhat repaired, in the most necessary places, but generally dilapidated. The guns are old and apparently unserviceable, almost as dangerous to the possessors as to their enemies. The bazaars are tolerably well supplied, and on the whole there is an agreeable air of business and neatness in the city, presenting a favorable contrast to the general aspect of Turkish towns.

The island of Candia extends about one hundred and sixty miles from east to west, and about thirty from north to south in its widest part. It is divided by a ridge of mountains, running longitudinally through the island, and separating the northern from the southern part. Towards the centre, this ridge is less elevated and precipitous, and communications from one coast to the other have been easily established; but elsewhere the passage is more difficult and the aspect of the interior more savage. The roads, or rather passes, have been wholly neglected, and are now tedious and dangerous. Wheel carriages are unknown, and the transportation of the productions to the coast forms an important portion of their cost to the purchaser. Frequently the solid masonry of the old Venitian bridges has survived the roads they were intended to connect, and evince the former flourishing condition of the country. There are no rivers—the streams descending from the mountains not deserving that name—but springs and rivulets are abundant, and under happier auspices might be employed in irrigating the fields. But, alas! the country presents almost one scene of desolation. It is well known that the olive is a tree of slow growth, requiring many years to reach maturity and to produce its fruit. The ruthless Turks have cut down a large portion of these trees, the work of centuries, and thus extended their vengeance to succeeding generations. We found the same result elsewhere in the east, wherever in fact man had arrayed himself against man. The first act of oppression is to cut down the olive trees around a village, and then the labor of destruction is almost complete, for the miserable hovels are not worth the trouble of demolition. The plain from Athens to the Piræus was heretofore a magnificent olive orchard, but now its superb trees have almost disappeared, leaving scattered individuals to attest its former magnificence. With a little bread and a

few olives a Greek soldier performs his duties and cheerfully encounters the painful marches over the rugged paths through his country. And the Greek peasant is happy, if he can provide a scanty supply of this favorite food for his wife and children. We were told at Athens of a curious division of property, by which, frequently, the ground belonged to one man, the tree to another, and the product to a third. We were also told what was the principle by which these respective rights were regulated and the rent of the owners secured. But we have no space for its development.

About twenty miles from the city of Candia, at the base of Mount Ida, is the cavern so celebrated under the name of the Labyrinth. It is in the vicinity of the site of the ancient city of Gortyna, whose remains yet attest its former power and opulence. The credulity of the ancients and their predisposition to the marvellous, are in nothing more remarkable than in the fabulous recitals concerning this "Big Cave," as it would be called in Kentucky, and the exaggeration of many modern travellers has been scarcely less marked, and is certainly much less excusable. That it was originally a natural cavern in a soft limestone rock, there is no doubt. Many of the chambers and passages have been increased by the hand of man. And the wonder is not that this should have been done, and this subterranean asylum occasionally resorted to by the inhabitants of the neighboring regions; but that in an enlightened age, doubts should have been elevated into mystery, and much learned *charlatanism* employed to envelope a very plain subject with difficulties. When the proximity of the city of Gortyna is recollected, and the contests in which it was involved for ages, together with the general state of insecurity, which has often prevailed upon this island, what more natural than that the inhabitants should occasionally seek refuge for themselves and their property in this secluded cavern, so difficult to be discovered and so easy to be defended; or, that in a succession of ages, the natural fissures in the rock should have been enlarged, and the whole work rendered more capacious and more comfortable? We are persuaded that this is the natural solution of all the mystery attending this subject. As to the story of the Labyrinth, and the thousand fables connected with it, they do not merit a moment's serious consideration, except so far as they furnish materials for an interesting chapter in the history of human nature; evincing on the one hand the fertility of the imagination, and, on the other, the extent to which credulity may be carried, either in an implicit belief in a monstrous fable, or in a more chastened faith, seeking the materials in bygone events, and gravely endeavoring to account for the violations, not only of probability, but of possibility, by combining some allegorical mystery with traditional facts.

One cannot but be struck with the resemblance between this cavern, and those to be found in the limestone regions of Kentucky. The description of the former is absolutely applicable to the latter, leaving not the slightest doubt but that they owe their origins to the same common causes. If the traditions of the aboriginal inhabitants of Kentucky had been preserved, it may be that they would have furnished us a story quite as interesting as the adventures of Theseus and the destruction of the Minotaur. And if they had found a record as lasting and as beautiful as the Roman

poet has bequeathed to posterity, we might not have envied the Cretan wonder the description of its

"Parietibus textum cœcis iter, ancipitemque  
Mille viis habuisse dolum"——

in the time of the Greeks.

It is estimated that Crete contained twelve hundred thousand inhabitants. In the mutation of its fortunes, these have been successively reduced, so that under the government of the Venitians, they did not reach one million; but the diminution was frightfully accelerated by the Turkish yoke, which, with its accustomed destructive power, had brought this number down to about two hundred and eighty thousand before the commencement of the Greek revolution; and at present it does not exceed one hundred and seventy thousand, of whom one hundred and thirty thousand are Greeks and forty thousand Mahometans. The state of the population in former ages is sufficiently indicated by the accounts which are given of its hundred cities,

"Centum urbes habitant magnas"——

and the epithet even which Homer applies to it, "Creta Hecatompolis," marks the progress it must have made at that early period in the elements of wealth and power. And though this number of one hundred may have been rather a round one than numerically exact, still no doubt can exist, but that there were a great number of important towns in this island, towards the commencement of authentic history. Pliny, after enumerating nearly twenty cities upon the coast and as many in the interior, all existing in his time, adds, that the memory of sixty others was still preserved. The renown which the island enjoyed among the ancients, for its fertility and the mildness of its climate, is well borne out by these evidences of its adaptation to the support of a dense population.

The repulsive effects of Turkish conquest upon the countries subdued by the Mahometans, is one of the distinctive traits of their religious and social institutions. Among other nations there is a slow but gradual tendency towards amalgamation between the invaders and the invaded; and generally in a succession of ages, the peculiar characteristics of each are so softened, if not annihilated, that the original differences disappear and cease to produce any effect upon the new society. Not so with the followers of Mahomet. Their fanaticism never slumbers, and their religious dogmas raise an impassable barrier between themselves and the inhabitants of the countries overrun by them. It is a cardinal principle, not only of their policy but of their faith, that all the people they subdue, have justly forfeited their lives; and it is a practical corollary, that whether these shall be spared or not is a simple question of expediency. The English law is not the only one which delights in fictions; the Turkish code contains at least one of these subtle contrivances, by which results are obtained not originally contemplated by the lawgiver. When the conquered Rayahs are freed from military execution, this exertion of Mussulman mercy is not a pardon but a reprieve. The penalty always hangs over them, and is ransomed from year to year by a tax, constituting a considerable item in the Turkish budget. Every person in the Turkish empire, not a Mahometan, pays this yearly contribution, under the pretence of its being due to the Sultan,

for his clemency in permitting the infidel dog to live under the shadow of his throne during another year.

As to intermarriages between the professors of Moslemism and christianity, this mode of uniting the races is impossible, because every such union is punishable with death, and the most sedulous attention seems to have been exerted in other respects to preserve the same system of separation. The Turk adopts a peculiar costume, one, which till lately, has not changed, and which has probably been unvaried since the days of Abraham; and he prescribes, if not all the costume, at least a part of it, which his conquered subjects shall wear. In courts of justice the christian's statement is valueless, and he has little to hope from a legal controversy with a fellow subject of the favored caste. The cardinal principle of the Turkish polity seems to have been, that a Mahometan is made to govern and a christian to submit; and this principle has been carried out in all the various forms that a complicated state of society presents. We say *has been*, because great changes have come over the Turkish institutions and greater yet seem to be in progress.

At this moment, in the island of Crete, the condition of the Mahometans, if not actually worse than that of the Greeks, promises less melioration. The former are generally all poor, with the exception of a few rich Agas. Before the revolution they were Janissaries, and were maintained by their privileges and by the taxes and extortions wrung from the latter. But now this redoubtable order is suppressed, and its remains, driven to their own resources, are barely able to procure the necessaries of life. Their number is in a state of rapid declension; while the Greeks, relieved from some of the oppressions which weighed them down, and finding their industry better rewarded, and their acquisitions better protected, are gradually advancing in improvement. Our intelligent informant told us, that four years ago scarcely a house was standing or a field cultivated; but that now the signs of prosperous industry began to meet the eye of the traveller in different parts of the island.

The principal agricultural product of Crete is the olive. It gives the most profitable return; though, at present, from the dearth of labor, it is estimated that more than one-fifth of the olive trees are neglected; laborers not being found to gather the fruit. Wheat is also a staple article, but unfortunately the province of Messara, heretofore most devoted to its culture, was one of the districts which suffered most from the revolution; and this circumstance, with the general depression of agriculture, has led to such a diminution in the supply, that large quantities of this article have been imported for consumption. However, the culture begins to revive.

The same causes have operated to depress the production of another of the staple articles of Crete—that of wine. The soil and climate are favorable to the growth of the vine, and several species of grape have been cultivated, producing different kinds of wine much esteemed, and which were formerly in demand for exportation. But the supply is now restricted to the domestic consumption; though, as agriculture and manufactures revive, there is little doubt but that this branch of industry will be again cultivated with success.

Crete produces the following articles for exportation:  
*Oil*.—Which is peculiarly adapted from its quality to the manufacture of soap, though the quantity varies greatly from year to year.

*Silk*.—Of a superior quality, but in small quantities.  
*Raisins*.

*Honey*.—Highly esteemed through the east.

*Chesnuts*.—An important article of consumption in these regions. Those of Crete are in much demand through the Archipelago.

*Cheese*.—Formerly Crete possessed large flocks of sheep, and there was manufactured from their milk a cheese, known under the name of sphakian, esteemed through the east. The troubles in the island led necessarily to the diminution of the flocks, but they are now increasing, and cheese is again becoming an article of exportation.

*Whetstones*.—Said to be of excellent quality.

*Carobs*.

*Vallonea*.

*Almonds*.

*Soap*.—The habits of the eastern nations lead to a great consumption of soap. Their ablutions are frequent; and preferring fingers to knives and forks, they find themselves obliged, after eating, to wash with soap and water. We have often admired the dexterity with which the servants manage this ceremony. The water is always poured from a vessel with a spout, resembling one of our coffee pots, upon the hands, which are held over a basin, and the operation is a very comfortable one, while the habit itself of personal neatness is conducive to health.

Crete possesses many manufactories of soap, and this article, which is of an excellent quality, is exported to all the countries in the Levant. Olive oil is used in its manufacture. The silks of Crete go to Trieste; the raisins to Tunis, Malta, and Trieste; the carobs to Malta, Genoa, and Constantinople; the vallonea to Trieste; and the almonds to the Black Sea. The other articles of produce principally to Turkey.

Crete imports from the Adriatic Gulf boards and nails, now much wanted for the construction and repair of houses,—from Germany and England, cloths, cottons, calicoes, &c. A few articles of American manufacture find their way there indirectly. Colonial products, coffee, rum, sugar, &c., are supplied by Trieste, Marseilles, and Malta; leather by Leghorn and Russia; iron by Trieste; corn, when necessary, by the Black Sea, Macedonia and Anatolia; rice by Alexandria and Piedmont; butter by Africa; and cod fish by France.

The commercial relations of Crete are principally with Syra and Trieste, which serve as entrepôts, whence the articles required are imported, from time to time, in small quantities.

The pre-existing commercial regulations through the Turkish empire must undergo great changes in consequence of the treaties recently negotiated by France and England at Constantinople. The principles will no doubt be extended to all other nations. If faithfully executed, the odious monopoly established by Mehemet Ali in Egypt will be abolished, and that unfortunate country delivered from one of the heaviest oppressions under which it labors. But the Pasha is shrewd, avaricious and unprincipled; and he may find

the means to render abortive all the efforts of the commercial interest of western Europe, to open its natural channels to the trade of Egypt. This system of monopoly, the last and worst contrivance of vice regal cupidity, has not found its way into Crete. The Egyptian merchant—for the Pasha is the only free merchant in his metropolitan country—has yet spared his conquered provinces this infliction. He may be waiting the firmer consolidation of his power and the final settlement of the questions pending between him and his nominal sovereign, but actual rival, the Sultan. His recent victory near Aleppo, and the death of his personal enemy Mahmoud, and the consequent stirring events, which at the moment we are writing are going on in the east, seem to assure to him the great object of his ambition—the establishment of an independent and hereditary government in his family.

The import and export trade of Crete is fettered with few impositions, and many other countries might draw a profitable lesson in political economy from Turkish and Egyptian moderation. The goose is allowed to lay its golden egg daily, without the fear of death to extract from it the precious deposit, and thus, in the fallacious hope of immediate acquisition, to sacrifice both present and future. The duties of entrance and clearance are three per cent, without any addition for coastage transportation. There is neither tonnage nor wharfage nor light-house duty, and the pilotage is in fact whatever the vessels please to pay, for the regular allowance is but three piastres, say fifteen cents. As to manifests, and all the machinery of custom house security against frauds, the Cretan regulations make short work of them. The captain or merchant interested in the importation or exportation, makes his declaration at the custom house, and the affair is finished.

The Mahometan governments meddle but little with foreigners living within their dominions. As long as these refrain from any acts compromising the public peace, they are left to the jurisdiction of their own consuls. This jurisdiction is aided, if necessary, by the local police, and the consuls are vested with very extensive and summary powers over their fellow countrymen. If a foreigner commits an offence against the peace of the island, he is delivered to his proper consul, who tries and punishes him agreeably to the laws of his own country. Formerly, whenever an injury was committed by a foreigner, a tax or *avanie* was levied upon the whole body of foreigners, and a fund thus raised, by which the innocent paid for the crimes of the guilty. But all this is changed, and not only has the tax disappeared, but the offender is referred, as we have seen, to the jurisdiction of his own consul. The subjects of the new kingdom of Greece are yet liable to some vexatious restrictions, the result of the feeling inspired by recent events, and perhaps by the relations of language, religion and manners, which connect them with the great body of the Cretan people. But these precautions will gradually disappear, and the Greeks be admitted fully to participate in the freedom enjoyed by other foreigners; which, in fact, amounts almost to immunity.

The average annual importations of Crete are estimated at 25,300,000 piastres, equal to \$1,265,000, and the exportations at 22,500,000 piastres, equal to

\$1,125,000. The number of vessels which entered in 1837 was 717, with a total tonnage of 30,532 tons, and manned by 4,992 men. The number which cleared during the same year was 730, with a tonnage of 31,629 tons, and with crews amounting to 5,577 men.

The revenues of the island for the same year are exhibited in the subjoined statement:

	Piastres.
Taxes on agricultural produce,	4,850,000
Rent paid in kind by the farmers of the government lands,	500,000
Capitation tax,	890,000
Duties on oil exported,	1,050,000
Duties on soap exported,	705,000
Duties on other exports,	120,000
Custom house duties on goods imported,	210,000
Duties on agricultural produce, paid at the gates of the several cities, equivalent to the active duties of France,	180,000
Duties on certain articles to defray the expenses of the cities,	171,000
Receipts from courts of justice,	150,000
Receipts from lazarettoes,	100,000
	<hr/> 8,926,000

Equal to \$446,340.

The expenditures during the same year were as follows:

Salary of the governor,	2,200,000
Pay, rations, &c., of the Arab troops,	3,500,000
Pay, rations, &c., of 1,300 Albanians, irregular troops,	3,500,000
Salaries of the members of the three councils, and incidental expenses,	600,000
Salaries of the treasurer, clerks, &c.,	120,000
Salaries of the members of the courts of justice, and the officers of the custom house,	100,000
Salaries of those employed to collect the taxes imposed on certain articles to defray city expenses;	120,000
Salaries of officers of the lazaretto, and incidental expenses,	70,000
	<hr/> 7,910,000

Equal to \$395,500.

We annex as a statistical curiosity the following abstract of the extraordinary expenditures made by Mehemet Ali in Candia, since the island came into his possession; a portion of which, were for works of internal improvement.

	Piastres.
For building at Candia a small lazaretto, where vessels with clean bills of health only are received,	30,000
Do. do. at Retimo,	20,000
Do. do. at Spinalonga,	20,000
Do. do. at Lontia,	15,000
Do. do. do.	65,000
For building a lazaretto at Suda, where all vessels are received, coming with foul bills of health, and infected or suspected merchandize,	1,146,500
Repairing and partly clearing port of Retimo,	171,300
Repairing the port of Candia,	575,000
Repairing the fortress of Canea,	250,000
Amount carried over,	<hr/> 2,323,000

	Piastres.
Amount brought over,	2,323,000
Repairing the fortress of Carabonsa,	65,000
Repairing the arsenal at Canea,	50,000
Repairing the fortress at Suda,	50,000
Cost of machinery for clearing port of Canea,	380,000
Cost of an aqueduct at Candia,	305,000

(Equal to \$166,150.) 3,173,000

When the allied powers of Europe interfered efficaciously for the establishment of the kingdom of Greece, considerations of policy prevented the annexation of Candia to the new state; to which union it was called by the wishes of its inhabitants, whose language, associations and interests connected them with their brethren of the same stock, the descendants and remains of the subjugated eastern empire. However, the island was not restored to the Turks, but was secured to Mehemet Ali, in whose possession indeed it had been for some time. He was required to govern it without the imposition of any new taxes; a condition which, if faithfully observed, would go far to defeat one of the principal objects of Mahometan governments—which is to wring from the wretched population all the money that power can procure and poverty furnish. In the present constitution of the island, it is governed by a Pasha, whose authority is in fact unlimited, but whom the policy of the Vice Roy has surrounded with some institutions having the appearance of a representative character. And though no usefully practical result, to any great extent, has yet been obtained, because the elements of administrative knowledge are sparsely scattered among the Turkish population, still the experiment is an interesting one, and it is to be hoped it will be continued, and lay the foundation of a gradual melioration in the political institutions of the island. The whole country is divided into twenty cantons, each of which sends two members to their proper municipal council. There are three of these councils—one at Candia, one at Retimo, and one at Canea. One of the deputies from each canton is a Greek, and the other Turk; though this regulation has not been invariably observed, in consequence it is said of the difficulty of finding competent persons. But there is a singular difference in the application of this charge of incompetence; one of our authorities referring it to the Greeks and the other to the Turks. These councils have a legislative as well as a judicial power. They frame the laws and try and punish the breaches of them. But the pain of death cannot be inflicted without the approbation of the governor. In addition to these duties, they have important administrative powers, such as the enforcement of the regulations concerning the public health, the fixing of the price of provisions, the superintendence of the public works, &c. "The deputies receive a trifling salary, and being rather nominated by the governor than elected by the people, cannot be supposed to be very independent."

We cannot close this sketch without acknowledging our obligation to Mr. Bonnal, the consul of the United States at Canea. His long residence in the island, together with his general information, gives great authen-

ticity to his statements, and he seems as eager to communicate the traveller is to collect. He enjoys a high reputation at Canea, and deservedly so, and is a most worthy representative of our country in that remote place. We know no subject in the legislation, connected with our external relations, which demands more prompt and urgent attention than the situation of our consular establishments, more particularly those placed at Mahometan countries. Almost every where, indeed, the office of American consul is little better than an eleemosynary employment. Scattered over the globe, and stationed at all the interesting commercial points, these officers are dependent upon casual fees—fees, except in a very few instances, inadequate for support. On the continent of Europe, at some of the consulates, these fees are principally composed of dues upon the American traveller for the *visa* or passport; that is, for the certificate of the consul that his official seal, that he has examined the passport, an indispensable ceremony—without which the traveller would find his journey arrested by the police. This tax is paid with much reluctance, and is fast going to be abolished. But a substitute, however, must be immediately provided by law in an amount for allowance. And, what is still worse, many indispensable expenditures made by the consuls are left without being remunerated, because there is no legal provision for their allowance.

There is a noble American mission at Canea, at the head of which Mr. Benton—a worthy man—devoting him a journey to the task he has undertaken, principally the education of youth. He has met with some difficulties from the local authorities, but we understand these are yielding to a better knowledge and a more correct appreciation of his motives and objects, and we could not but invoke for the island a more interesting institution in the firm establishment of this missionary undertaking.

No American can meet these little bands of pilgrims, which his country now sends forth to every benighted portion of the world, without an emotion of pride and patriotism as rare as it is profound. With a devotion at once ardent and enlightened, these generous apostles of religion, morality and education, gird themselves up to their task, and abandoning their native land with all its offers, go to regions, marked by ignorance, intolerance and misery as their own. They go indeed under the star-spangled banner, but it is neither to gather riches nor to carry war. Higher and holier sentiments impel them to the journey, and support them in the trials they are called upon to encounter. It was our good fortune to visit several of these establishments in the east, and we found that their inmates had consolidated the rectitude of the native inhabitants and were laying the foundation of future usefulness. These green spots in the moral desert are indeed refreshing, and doubly so to an American, as tributes of the generous zeal of his country to these regions of early civilization. We sincerely hope they may continue to multiply and flourish, and that the fructifying streams from the western continent which give them nourishment, may not fail in their supplies.





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Cost of an aqueduct at Candia,	305,000
(Equal to \$166,150.)	3,173,000

When the allied powers of Europe interfered efficaciously for the establishment of the kingdom of Greece, considerations of policy prevented the annexation of Candia to the new state; to which union it was called by the wishes of its inhabitants, whose language, associations and interests connected them with their brethren of the same stock, the descendants and remains of the subjugated eastern empire. However, the island was not restored to the Turks, but was secured to Mehemet Ali, in whose possession indeed it had been for some time. He was required to govern it without the imposition of any new taxes; a condition which, if faithfully observed, would go far to defeat one of the principal objects of Mahometan governments—which is to wring from the wretched population all the money that power can procure and poverty furnish. In the present constitution of the island, it is governed by a Pasha, whose authority is in fact unlimited, but whom the policy of the Vice Roy has surrounded with some institutions having the appearance of a representative character. And though no usefully practical result, to any great extent, has yet been obtained, because the elements of administrative knowledge are sparsely scattered among the Turkish population, still the experiment is an interesting one, and it is to be hoped it will be continued, and lay the foundation of a gradual melioration in the political institutions of the island. The whole country is divided into twenty cantons, each of which sends two members to their proper municipal council. There are three of these councils—one at Candia, one at Retimo, and one at Canea. One of the deputies from each canton is a Greek, and the other Turk; though this regulation has not been invariably observed, in consequence it is said of the difficulty of finding competent persons. But there is a singular difference in the application of this charge of incompetence; one of our authorities referring it to the Greeks and the other to the Turks. These councils have a legislative as well as a judicial power. They frame the laws and try and punish the breaches of them. But the pain of death cannot be inflicted without the approbation of the governor. In addition to these duties, they have important administrative powers, such as the enforcement of the regulations concerning the public health, the fixing of the price of provisions, the superintendence of the public works, &c. "The deputies receive a trifling salary, and being rather nominated by the governor than elected by the people, cannot be supposed to be very independent."

We cannot close this sketch without acknowledging our obligation to Mr. Bonnal, the consul of the United States at Canea. His long residence in the island, together with his general information, gives great authen-

ticity to his statements, and he seems as eager to communicate as the traveller is to collect. He enjoys a high reputation at Canea, and deservedly so, and is a most worthy representative of our country in that remote place. We know no subject in the legislation, connected with our external relations, which demands more prompt and urgent attention than the situation of our consular establishments, more particularly those placed in Mahometan countries. Almost every where, indeed, the office of American consul is little better than an eleemosynary employment. Scattered over the globe, and stationed at all the interesting commercial points, these officers are dependent upon casual fees—altogether, except in a very few instances, inadequate to their support. On the continent of Europe, at some of the consulates, these fees are principally composed of charges upon the American traveller for the *visa* of his passport; that is, for the certificate of the consul, under his official seal, that he has examined the passport—an indispensable ceremony—without which the traveller would find his journey arrested by the police. But this tax is paid with much reluctance, and in fact ought to be abolished. But a substitute, however, should be immediately provided by law in an annual fixed allowance. And, what is still worse, many indispensable expenditures made by the consuls are left without being remunerated, because there is no legal provision for their allowance.

There is a little American mission at Canea, at the head of which is Mr. Benton—a worthy man—devoting himself zealously to the task he has undertaken, principally the education of youth. He has met with some difficulties from the local authorities, but we understand these are yielding to a better knowledge and a more correct appreciation of his motives and objects, and we could scarcely invoke for the island a more interesting institution than the firm establishment of this missionary undertaking.

No American can meet these little bands of pilgrims, which his country now sends forth to every benighted portion of the world, without an emotion of pride and patriotism as pure as it is profound. With a devotion at once ardent and enlightened, these generous apostles of religion, morality and education, gird themselves up to their task, and abandoning their native land with all it offers, go forth to regions, marked by ignorance, intolerance and misery as their own. They go indeed under the star-spangled banner, but it is neither to gather riches nor to carry war. Higher and holier sentiments impel them to the journey, and support them in the trials they are called upon to encounter. It was our good fortune to visit several of these establishments in the east, and we found that their inmates had conciliated the respect of the native inhabitants and were laying the foundation of future usefulness. These green spots in the moral desert are indeed refreshing, and doubly so to an American, as tributes of the generous zeal of his country to these regions of early civilization. We sincerely hope they may continue to multiply and flourish, and that the fructifying streams from the western continent which give them nourishment, may not fail in their supplies.













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